



The President's Daily Brief

22 June 1971

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

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PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

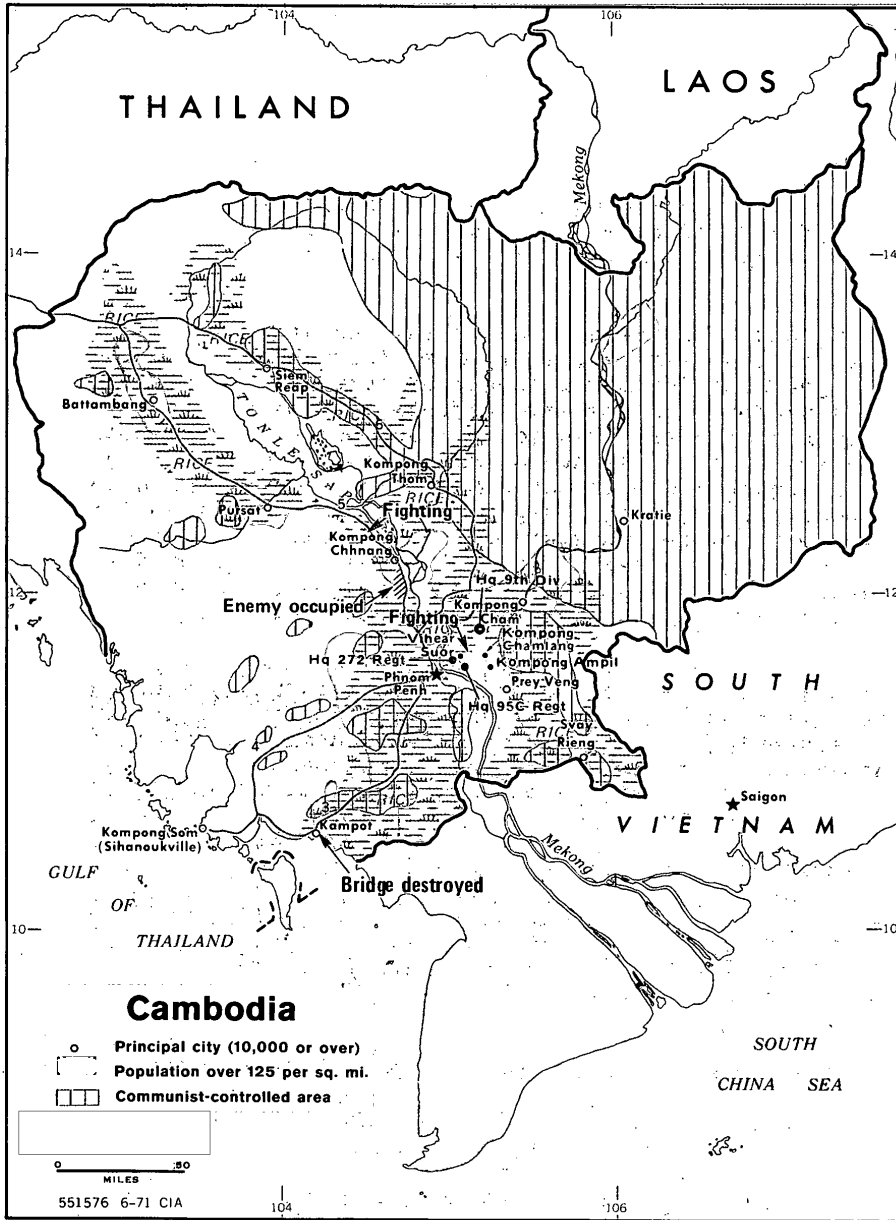
In Cambodia, a relief column is meeting heavy resistance in its efforts to lift the Communist siege of Kompong Chamlang and Kompong Ampil. (Page 1)

U Thant is preparing to issue another denunciation of Israeli activities in Jerusalem which may increase pressure for Security Council consideration of the problem. (Page 3)

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Current Situation



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CAMBODIA

A nine-battalion relief column is meeting heavy resistance in its efforts to lift the Communist siege of forces at Kompong Chamlang and Kompong Ampil, northeast of Phnom Penh. The relief force, composed primarily of Khmer Krom troops, is now halted some three miles east of the staging point of Vihear Suor. During its four-day push, it has lost nearly 20 troops killed and 160 wounded. Enemy losses are put at 120 killed.

[redacted] elements of the Communist 272nd Regiment, 9th Division, probably are involved in the fighting. [redacted] the 95C Regiment of the Communist 9th Division has moved into the area, suggesting that more hard fighting lies ahead. 50X1 50X1

Government forces have been resting and refitting before renewing operations; they are tentatively scheduled to move today. According to a US defense attaché who visited the area yesterday, the Cambodian Army commander for the operation said that his troops are well supplied and that morale is good.

There are tenuous signs that the Communists intend to increase pressure on other population centers despite the arrival of the rainy season. North of Phnom Penh, Communist units are reported to have occupied a 15-mile stretch of Route 5 south of Kompong Chhnang city, and fighting also broke out north of the city. Local Cambodian commanders fear an assault on the city, which was free of harassment during the past dry season. Cambodian officers also report a buildup of Communist forces near Kompong Thom and Kompong Cham cities, as well as the area just north of Route 6 that was the scene of heavy fighting in late 1970.

Cambodian fears may be exaggerated; most of the North Vietnamese main-force regiments remain east of the Mekong.

(continued)

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The Communists have been somewhat more active in the past few days in the Kampot area

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A large bridge in Kampot city was destroyed on 17 June, isolating one section of the town. The Communists, however, have not as yet followed up with any ground action against government troops in the area.

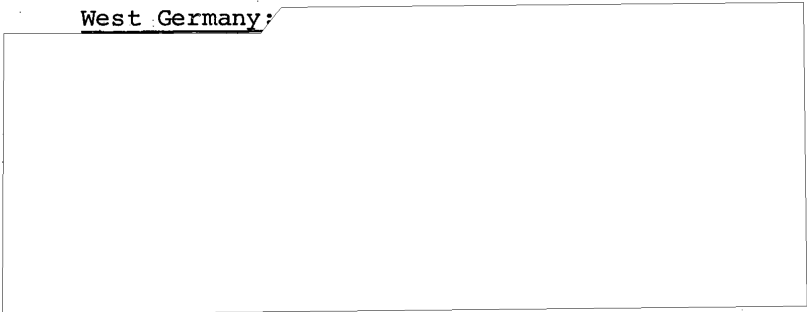
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NOTES

UN - Middle East: Secretary General Thant is preparing to issue another denunciation of Israeli activities in Jerusalem which may increase pressure for Security Council consideration of the Jerusalem problem. The US Embassy in Tel Aviv believes that such a step at this time would "increase rather than decrease Israeli determination to move ahead on integrating Jerusalem."

West Germany:



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